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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/697,940	10/31/2003	Abdlmonem H. Beitelmal	10014769-3	8952

7590 11/30/2005

HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY
Intellectual Property Administration
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EXAMINER	
CIRIC, LJILJANA V	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
3753	

DATE MAILED: 11/30/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/697,940	BEITELMAL ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Ljiljana (Lil) V. Ciric LVC	3753	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *31 October 2003*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *2-4,6-9 and 19-29* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) *none* is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *2-4,6-9,19-29* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *31 October 2003* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *10312003*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because the last sentence of thereof refers to the purported merits of the invention. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

2. Applicant is reminded of the proper content of an abstract of the disclosure.

A patent abstract is a concise statement of the technical disclosure of the patent and should include that which is new in the art to which the invention pertains. If the patent is of a basic nature, the entire technical disclosure may be new in the art, and the abstract should be directed to the entire disclosure. If the patent is in the nature of an improvement in an old apparatus, process, product, or composition, the abstract should include the technical disclosure of the improvement. In certain patents, particularly those for compounds and compositions, wherein the process for making and/or the use thereof are not obvious, the abstract should set forth a process for making and/or use thereof. If the new technical disclosure involves modifications or alternatives, the abstract should mention by way of example the preferred modification or alternative.

The abstract should ***not*** *refer to purported merits* or speculative applications *of the invention* and should not compare the invention with the prior art.

Where applicable, the abstract should include the following:
(1) if a machine or apparatus, its organization and operation;
(2) if an article, its method of making;
(3) if a chemical compound, its identity and use;
(4) if a mixture, its ingredients;
(5) if a process, the steps.

Extensive mechanical and design details of apparatus should not be given.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claims 2 through 4, 6 through 9, and 19 through 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The term "close" appearing in each of claims 6 and 20 is a relative term which renders these claims, and all claims depending therefrom, indefinite. The term "close" is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably apprised of the scope of the invention. Thus, as used to qualify the relative distance between the second ends of the plurality of nozzles and the heat generating components, this undefined relative term renders the same indeterminate in scope and the claims containing the term indefinite in scope.

Also with regard to each of base claims 6 and 20, it is not clear whether the limitation "positioned substantially *close to a respective one of said heat generating components*" [claim 6, lines 8-9; claim 20, lines 10-11] is or is not intended to positively recite the heat generating components which are otherwise previously only recited in each claim as part of an intended use limitation in the preamble of the claim, thus rendering the indefinite the intended metes and bounds of protection sought by the claims and by all claims depending therefrom.

The alternative elements recited in claim 21 should be more properly recited as part of a proper Markush claim. For example, "comprising one or more of processors, micro-controllers, high speed video cards, disk drives, and semi-conductor devices" should be replaced with "comprising one or more components selected from the group consisting of processors, micro-controllers, high speed video cards, disk drives, and semi-conductor devices".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. As best can be understood in view of the indefiniteness of the claims, claims 2 through 4 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Otsuka (made of record via the IDS filed on October 31, 2003).

Otsuka discloses a cooling system essentially as claimed, including, for example: a variable speed blower or fan 2; a plenum 3 having an inlet 17 and a plurality of outlets 15a through 15d; a plurality of nozzles or variable air volume units 14a through 14d which affect the flow of the air therethrough in a predetermined manner; a corresponding valve or damper 14a through 14d located along each of the nozzles or variable air volume units 14a through 14d; a blower or fan controller 30; a pressure sensor 19 located within the plenum 3; a plurality of valve or damper controllers 31, 48, 49, and 50; and a plurality of temperature sensors 5a through 5d. Dampers or valves 14a through 14d are motor-operated, with the motors inherently being heat-generating components during operation.

The reference thus reads on the claims.

Double Patenting

7. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

8. Claims 2 through 4, 6 through 8, and 25 through 29 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 3 through 5, 7 through 10, 12, and 13 of U.S. Patent No. 6,574,104 B2. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because the claims of the patent encompass all of the elements

of the corresponding claims in the instant application, and thus anticipate the same. While the patent claims recite a plurality of vents instead of the plurality of nozzles being recited by the application claims, the flow-controlling vents of the patent claims are at least broadly readable as required on the nozzles of the application claims.

Allowable Subject Matter

9. Claims 9 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

10. Claims 19 through 24 would be allowable if rewritten or amended (without broadening) to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action.

Conclusion

11. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ljiljana (Lil) V. Ciric whose telephone number is 571-272-4909. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays through Fridays from 10:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gene Mancene, can be reached at 571-272-4930.

Through December 10, 2005 at least, the examiner's acting supervisor is Stephen Blau, who can be reached at 571-272-4406.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system.

Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov.

Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Ljiljana (Lil) V. Ciric
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3753